



LOS ANGELES COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH
550 S. VERMONT AVE. LOS ANGELES, CA 90020 HTTP://DMH.LACOUNTY.GOV



MARVIN J. SOUTHARD, D.S.W.
Director
ROBIN KAY, Ph.D.
Chief Deputy Director
RODERICK SHANER, M.D.
Medical Director

December 18, 2012

TO: Each Supervisor 

FROM: Marvin J. Southard, D.S.W.
Director

SUBJECT: **LOS ANGELES COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH (DMH)
ACTIVE SHOOTER/MASS CASUALTY PREPAREDNESS**

This memo summarizes the Department's course of action immediately following the incident in Newtown, Connecticut. A copy cat event was considered as a primary concern. The Emergency Outreach Bureau (EOB) consulted with the following agencies.

- Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) and other school Threat Management Teams to review persons of concern and to call the Psychiatric Mobile Response Team (PMRT) or the School Threat Assessment Response Team (START) for assistance on cases that suggested a possible copy cat event.
- Local and federal law enforcement partners were encouraged to check with their school districts about reviewing students of concern.
- The Case Assessment Management Program (CAMP), START, Special Prevention Unit (SPU), and PMRT reviewed active and former individuals for threat potential with telephone or field contact as indicated.
- Reviewed shooter's social network to determine if any communications suggested parallel planning with local persons of concern.
- Notified the Department's directly operated and contracted agencies to review caseloads for potential persons of concern
- Notified ACCESS to consult with EOB Managers on potential cases of concern.

Over the past years EOB has formed specialized programs and developed or encouraged partnerships with school districts, community colleges, universities and law enforcement agencies on assessment, intervention, and management of individuals

Each Supervisor
December 18, 2012
Page 2

deemed as at risk for violence. CAMP, START, and SPU are dedicated to interventions involving high profile individuals.

EOB continues to provide training on targeted school violence and to date has provided training to schools, mental health providers, campus security, parents and students on identification, assessment, and intervention strategies. Teams respond to requests for service, trainings, attend Individual Educational Plans, and other meetings designed to manage the student and/or threat.

If you have any questions, please call me, or your staff may contact Dr. Tony Beliz, Deputy Director, at (213) 738-4924 or via e-mail at TBeliz@dmh.lacounty.gov.

MJS:TB:MAB:tld

c: William T Fujioka, CEO
Sheila Shima, Deputy CEO